

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

1.962
A2M51

For December 26 papers

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Washington, D. C.

December 22, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. C. M. GRANGER,
Acting Chief, Forest Service.

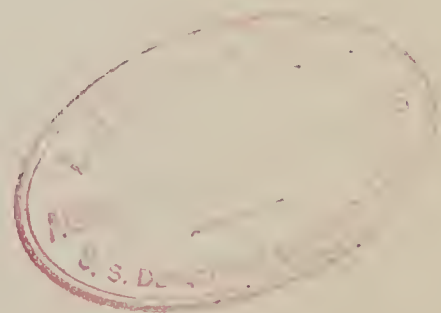
Dear Mr. Granger:

I approve the single change now made in the forestry program to achieve a greater amount of conservation. I am looking forward most anxiously to the reports of the committees now examining over 20 forestry programs now under way, and 13 programs requiring additional authorization. The proposals rising out of these reports no doubt will deal specifically with the integration of forestry with other agricultural efforts in behalf of sound land use and human conservation.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ H. A. Wallace

Secretary.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

December 19, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In answer to your request of November 25 I want you to know that we are making every effort to fulfill our share of the Department's broadened conservation program.

The forestry activities of the Department were among the first public conservation measures, and no doubt had much to do in stimulating many of the more recent conservation activities which are all so closely inter-related. The Forest Service will do everything it can to closely integrate its programs with other conservation activities of the Department in a unified manner.

As we have pointed out before, present forest conservation efforts, while generally effective as far as they go, are still quite inadequate to meet the whole forest problem. These inadequacies cannot be met in any large way without additional budget and supplemental legislation. This need will be pointed out in a special report to be submitted to the Joint Committee on Forestry. As you know, the President asked this Committee to recommend to Congress legislative and other measures needed to help solve the country's forest problems.

Furthermore, the Department Committee which is now at work, defining and clarifying the relationship between the farm problem and the forest problem and considering the improvement of present programs and additional forestry needs, will undoubtedly produce some worthwhile actionable recommendations that will serve to strengthen the Department's effort to get more conservation.

The Committee is considering over twenty forestry programs now under way and how they may be improved to get more conservation, and at least thirteen programs which require additional authorization and budget. This includes an appraisal of those programs not dealing directly with farming, but having a close relation

to farm problems, such as national forest administration, public forest acquisition and private forestry cooperation; those programs that deal with both farms and non-farm forest lands, such as cooperative forest fire protection, forest insect and disease control and forest research; those programs that deal primarily with farming, such as forestry extension education, farm forestry and forestry cooperatives. New legislation, including the Forest Restoration Plan, which involves public leasing and cooperative agreements and Forest Regulation, is also being studied. Recommendations are being considered which will affect all these measures,

I would like to emphasize the importance of a unified conservation program that includes not only our farm lands with the 185,000,000 acres of farm forests, but also the 445,000,000 acres of other forest land which has such a close relation to the whole agricultural economy. The intimate relationship between forested watersheds and dependent agricultural lands, forestry as an alternative use for land submarginal for cultivation, forestry and forest industries as a source of employment off the farm and for other rural people, local markets for farm products in communities supported by forest industries, the integrated treatment of all lands that is required to regulate streamflow and help prevent floods--all these, plus the striking relationship that exists between forest problem areas and critical farm areas, demonstrate the scope of the problem and its many complicating aspects. These and other relationships the Department's Committee should further define and clarify. It should be very helpful in even more closely integrating forestry as a part of agriculture.

In the meantime the Forest Service will endeavor to give fully appropriate attention to those phases of its present programs that bear directly on the welfare of agricultural communities, through the national forest program, research and state and private forestry cooperative activities--all these conservation measures which have as their major objective the security and well being of dependent people. As an example of this special emphasis, there is attached a letter to Regional Foresters directing them to cooperate with the FSA to aid farmers in financing sales of forest products from the national forests. This is a practice that has been tested, and we now think it should be given broader application. As further tests of cooperative endeavor prove themselves, they will be put into effect in a similar manner.

Sincerely,

/s/ C. M. Granger

C. M. GRANGER,
Acting Chief, Forest Service.

Enclosure

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

December 19, 1939.

Regional Foresters

All Regions

Dear Sir:

In response to the special effort that the Department is now making to get more conservation through its present programs, the Forest Service has indicated that it will make a special effort to do certain things. One in which the Department is especially interested involves the cooperative effort of the Forest Service and Farm Security Administration to aid farmers, and other local dependent residents, in the national forest areas to finance sales of forest products, either as individuals or through cooperative enterprises. Where there are resources available and dependent needy families living in or adjacent to national forests in your region it is requested that you; first, investigate the situation and determine to what extent national forest stumpage can be made available to such families; and second, take the action necessary to bring the credit facilities of the Farm Security Administration and marketable resources of the national forests together as one means of aid and assistance to local settlers.

It is recognized that this has always been a part of the national forest program, but I would like to see a special effort made now to expand this activity, wherever possible, in response to the Department's interest. This matter has been discussed with the Farm Security Administration representatives here, and they have indicated their full cooperation. It is suggested that you first discuss this matter with regional representatives of the Farm Security Administration to see where the greatest need is, and to what extent national forest stumpage can help. After you have had time to survey the situation I would like to be informed what is now being done, and what additional things can be done in this regard. This office will be glad to help in any way possible.

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ C. M. Granger

Acting Chief, Forest Service

